

## 40,000 attend Irbid rally

IRBID (Petra) — More than 40,000 people took part in a public rally organised by the Muslim Brotherhood office in the city of Irbid, Friday to voice support for the Palestinian uprising. Several Muslim Brotherhood deputies delivered speeches reviewing the current situation in the Arab World. Deputy Ahmad Al Kofahi called the Muslims to abide by the "rule of Islam and become strong." He called on citizens to support the intifada, "which it embodies the meaning of jihad." He said the Islamic movement in Jordan has formed several committees for supporting the intifada. Deputy Yousef Al Azem said the U.S. "aims at undermining the Islamic Nations' position because it views it as a danger that threatens its interests." He said the Islamic "revival represented in the Palestinian uprising against Israel practices was a source of worry for the foreign powers." Deputy Abdul Mun'im Abu Zani hailed the united Jordanian-Palestinian stand and denounced the U.S. and its allies' attempts to dominate Arab and Islamic lands. Deputy Abdul Rahim Al Ukoor reviewed the Islamic movement's activities in Irbid for supporting the intifada.

**Rocard: All resolutions on Mideast should be implemented**

PARIS (Agencies) — French Prime Minister Michel Rocard has said that the international community did not show the same enthusiasm in implementing U.N. Security Council resolutions as they are doing in the Gulf affair. "The Palestinian issue represents a wound for the Arabs, and in this problem as in the Kuwait one the Security Council adopted resolutions and we should be brave to say that the international community did not show the same enthusiasm in implementing these resolutions, or those concerning the Lebanese crisis," Rocard said. Rocard, addressing an election rally in Paris, said that the Gulf crisis "is a conflict between right and power, between freedom and blackmail and between the international community and the will of power."

**Kaiju begins U.S. and Mideast tour**

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu left for New York Friday to attend a special session of the United Nations on children followed by a week-long tour of five Middle East countries. While in New York, Kaifu will meet U.S. President George Bush and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Kaifu will be armed with \$4 billion aid package for the Middle East, half to the multinational forces in the Gulf and the rest to frontline states affected by United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

**Palestinian Baathists break away from Syria**

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Syria's stand against Iraq in the Gulf crisis has prompted Palestinian members of the Baath party in the Israeli-occupied territories to distance themselves from Damascus. Trade unionists affiliated with the small Baath Party in the West Bank Thursday condemned Syria's despatch of troops to Saudi Arabia and announced a merger with a group which is a Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) powerbase in the occupied territories. "We declare support for the unification of the Palestinian labour movement in the occupied territories where our block can play its role within the general federation of trade unions in the West Bank," said Jamal Bustami, head of the Al Taleah (Vanguard) trade union bloc.

**'Oldest well' found near Hafsa**

TEL AVIV (R) — Archaeologists excavating a Stone Age village off the Israeli coast have found an 8,000-year-old freshwater well believed to be the world's oldest. Newspapers Friday quoted Ehud Galili, the government official heading the project, as saying the well was 1,000 years more ancient than the previously oldest known well in Turkey. The well was found 400 metres off the coast south of Haifa. Galili said it indicated the Stone Age dwellers had a relatively advanced understanding of water resources and how to tap them. He said villagers turned the well into a rubbish dump after melting ice caps raised the sea level and made the water salty.

**Ex-head of Tunisian security arrested**

TUNIS (R) — The former head of Tunisia's security service, Mohammad Larbi Mahjoubi, has been arrested for allegedly misusing his power, an official source said Friday. The source said Mahjoubi was arrested last Sunday but denied a magazine report that he had links to Israel's Mossad intelligence service. Mossad was blamed for assassinating Palestinian leader Abu Jihad in Tunis in April 1988. Mahjoubi, head of counter-intelligence at that time, had a home opposite Abu Jihad's forces' hasty departure to take up

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**Baghdad issues dire warning of 'coming fire'**

## Soviets warn of 'world war'

**Soviet defence chief sees Iran joining Iraq**

**Shevardnadze says use of force catastrophic**

### 'Saleh plans initiative'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Friday said Yemen will launch an initiative that will be presented to the U.N. Security Council to solve the Gulf crisis.

The use of power will cause a catastrophe... which should be avoided," Shevardnadze told the London-based Al Hayat Arabic language newspaper.

"I think if military clashes break out, they will not be contained in the region and we do not know how many countries will be involved," he said.

Shevardnadze advised Iraqi President Saddam Hussein against attacking U.S.-dominated foreign troops massed in the region since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. "He will be committing a crime against his people and neighbours," he said.

He spoke in New York, where he warned Iraq in a speech to the

United Nations General Assembly Tuesday that the U.N. would

use powers to "suppress aggression" unless it withdrew from Kuwait.

Moscow, a former key ally of Iraq, backs U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq over the invasion but has not joined the military buildup in the Gulf.

Shevardnadze told the newspaper that foreign troops would withdraw from the Gulf if Iraq pulled out of Kuwait.

#### Iran-Iraq 'alliance'

The Soviet armed forces chief of staff said in an interview published Friday that a military conflict in the Gulf would see Iran allying with Iraq and could develop into a world war.

"In case of some military actions, Iran will join the Iraqi side," General Mikhail Moiseyev was quoted as telling the

Washington Post in Moscow.

"This would not be simply some kind of conflict, this would be a world war."

The Post said Moiseyev did not elaborate on why he thought Iran and Iraq, which fought a war from 1980 to 1988, might join sides.

The Post said he indicated concern that a war beginning with small and seemingly remote events might trigger a much wider conflict.

"The First World War in 1914 also started because of some minor thing," he was quoted as saying. "Today we should do our utmost to avoid that."

Moiseyev, who was speaking shortly before leaving for a tour of U.S. military facilities, was quoted as saying he had given technical information to the U.S.

(Continued on page 5)

## Israelis raze Bureij homes and shops, maintain siege

### Yemen seeks U.N. meeting

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Yemen, in a letter circulated Friday, asked for an urgent Security Council meeting on the "current situation in the occupied Palestinian territory."

It gave no details. Council sources said they did not expect a meeting before next week.

The army ordered the demolition of the 33 shops and houses on both sides of the site where the killing took place. Officials contend the demolitions were not meant as punishment but to improve "security" in the camp.

The army announced, meanwhile, that Palestinians would be blocked from leaving or entering the Gaza Strip and West Bank on Yom Kippur, the Jewish day of atonement. It said roads into Israel would be closed from Friday afternoon to Saturday night.

During the army-escorted tour of Bureij, reporters were not allowed to speak to people in the camp. The 20,000 residents were confined to their homes by an army curfew in force for the eighth consecutive day.

The newly widened road was swept clean, and there was no sign of the rubble from the demolished stores and houses. The women in could be seen peeking from behind a curtain.

Shmuel Zucker, the army's Gaza commander, told reporters:

"We are now standing in the same place where the soldier was

killed. This street was source of trouble. We pulled down 26 shops and seven houses to make the street wider and more secure."

Zucker said "dozens" have been arrested in the case, but declined to give a specific figure.

An Israeli-Arab parliament member, Mohammad Miri, who was on a separate tour of the camp, criticised the army's action.

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

A statement issued Thursday in Jerusalem by the Arab Journalists Association criticised the demolitions as "irrational and brutal."

It added: "We... denounce these measures and the iron fist policy which is being practiced against innocent people."

Meanwhile, a leaflet from the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement declared its solidarity with the camp's residents and criticised "the Zionist invaders

allowed to obtain basic foods without

(Continued on page 5)

## Thousands of Iranians denounce U.S. presence

TEHRAN (Agencies) —

Thousands of Iranians shouting "Death to America" marched in Tehran and other cities Friday to denounce the U.S.-led military build-up in the Gulf.

Tehran Radio said marchers later called in a resolution for an Islamic holy war against "alien forces" in the region but also demanded that Iraq quit Kuwait.

"The invasion by alien forces, particularly the U.S.A., of the Persian Gulf region and the holy shrines (in Saudi Arabia) was condemned..." the radio said.

"All the Muslims of the region were asked to strengthen the united front against world blasphemy by taking the fate of the Islamic World into their own hands and starting the liberating jihad against the invaders."

The protests Friday were dominated by Iranian hard liners opposed to President Hashemi Rafsanjani's efforts to improve ties with the West.

Rafsanjani said Thursday that Muslims were duty-bound to oppose the United States and Israel.

The Ayatollah, quoted by Iran's national news agency

IRNA, said U.S. cultural intrusions into Muslim lands posed the main danger.

"Muslims are duty-bound to continue their campaigns against the United States, the Qods (Jerusalem) occupying regime reactionary regimes," he told a visiting delegation of Muslims.

"We are determined to stand firmly in the face of whatsoever would menace Islam and the Islamic republic," he said. "Even during the demanding hours of (the Iran-Iraq) war, and in the eye of storm we did not forget the slogan of today Iran, tomorrow

positions in Saudi Arabia.

"We have seen how they have defiled our sacred lands, the land of divine revelations (Saudi Arabia)... this has naturally wounded the hearts of all Muslims," the radio said.

It is a source of shame for the rulers of these countries that they have stooped to this disgrace merely out of fear of losing their inauspicious crowns and thrones, and have belied their claims of being the guardians of the two holy mosques."

Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said previously that struggle against the U.S. presence would count as holy war.

The Tehran government

opposes foreign forces in the Gulf. It also denounces Iraq's occupation of Kuwait and says it is observing United Nations sanctions against Baghdad.

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## Cheney: Crisis may be coming to a head

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

Defense Secretary Dick Cheney says that Iraq may carry out its threat to attack Saudi Arabia, Israel or other states in an attempt to break the stranglehold of the United Nations economic sanctions.

The mass demolitions, he said, "can only worsen things between Jews and Arabs."

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## French forces targeted in Djibouti cafe blast

PARIS (R) — French troops

were the intended target of a grenade attack which killed a nine-year-old boy and injured 16 others in the Red Sea port of Djibouti, a French diplomat said Friday.

The grenade exploded after being thrown into the Cafe de Paris bar packed with off-duty French troops Thursday evening.

The victim was the son of a French soldier serving in the former colony.

The four attackers threw another grenade into the nearby Cafe Histori, which failed to explode. The Cafe Histori had been rebuilt after an attack in 1987 in which five people died.

Opponents of the French military presence were then suspected.

No one claimed responsibility for Thursday's bombing.

The French Foreign Ministry originally reported two children had been killed, but said later a young Djiboutian originally reported dead was seriously injured.

Djibouti, where a permanent garrison of French troops is

based, serves as a rear headquarters for French armed forces sent to the Gulf since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The aircraft carrier Clemenceau docked there last month.

But French government sources said there were no indications the attack was linked to the Gulf crisis.

French President Francois Mitterrand, in a message to the senior commanding officer in Djibouti, condemned the "cowardly attack" and offered his condolences to the parents of the dead boy.

"I express my confidence in you, and the French, to face the situation you are confronted with in the region with determination and dignity," he said.

Simone Poudade, French chargé d'affaires, said Thursday's attack was clearly aimed at France.

"There is no doubt the French were the target... the big cafes in the town centre are frequented almost exclusively by the French," she told France-Info.

Hawatmeh, who arrived here after a week-long visit to Baghdad, said his talks with Iraqi officials focused on means of finding a peaceful pan-Arab solution to the crisis.

Jordan, the Palestinians and Yemen and some other Arab countries are intensifying their efforts to crystallise a pan-Arab initiative to diffuse the tension in the Gulf and to avoid a devastating war, Hawatmeh said. He voiced appreciation of the French initiative which was announced Monday at the United Nations General Assembly. "Such an initiative has opened the file of the search for political solutions," Hawatmeh said.

Hawatmeh said he had sent a message to the Soviet leadership requesting Moscow to work out a new political initiative in consultation with Europe, France and China to present it to the United Nations as a substitute to the U.S. approach.

## Bush meets Sheikh Jaber, claims world supports him

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

President George Bush told the toppled ruler of Kuwait Friday that "the world is strongly supporting what we are trying to do" in seeking to force the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

Bush complimented the emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, on his speech Thursday before the United Nations General Assembly, calling it "a marvelous thing."

The president said the ovation Sheikh Jaber received "showed that the world was strongly sup-

porting what we all are trying to do."

The United Nations has passed eight resolutions opposing Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion.

The White House meeting was intended as a clear sign the United States still regards the 64-year-old emir as the "legitimate" ruler of Kuwait.

The president has insisted that not only must Iraq withdraw his invasion troops from Kuwait, but that the emir must be restored to the power he has wielded since

## Hrawi troops impose blockade on Aoun zone

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Troops loyal to Lebanese President Elias Hrawi clamped a tight blockade Friday on areas held by General Michel Aoun to try to starve him into surrender.

While Aoun remained defiant, panic erupted in the Christian enclave he partly controls. Residents rushed to stock up on food or left work to drive home in case of fighting.

Aoun, who has resisted attempts to besiege him for the past year, ruled out dialogue with Hrawi under the blockade.

"If they think they will bring the people to their knees with the blockade, they are mistaken," he told Al Anwar newspaper.

Aoun, who considers himself Lebanon's legitimate leader, survived last year's siege by Syrian and pro-Syrian forces. This time, the Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) militia let Hrawi's troops take over LF positions inside the enclave, facing Aoun's mainly Christian regular troops.

Aoun lost control of two-thirds of his enclave in a bloody four-month struggle for supremacy against the LF this year.

Hrawi's troops crossed the green line between west and east Beirut at dawn Friday. About 100

soldiers took over three former LF checkpoints on roads inside the enclave leading to the heart of Aoun's territory.

It was the first time since the national army broke in half along sectarian lines two years ago that regular troops not under Aoun's command had entered the Christian heartland.

Witnesses said all crossings to Aoun's areas were closed to cars and food trucks from midday (0900 GMT) and hundreds of cars were turned back. Only Red Cross teams, deputies, diplomats, and pedestrians could pass.

The move tightened an economic blockade clamped by Hrawi's government July 30 against Aoun and his soldiers in pockets they hold in east Beirut and the neighbouring Metn mountains.

Supplies of flour, food and vegetables were banned from reaching Aoun's 200-square-kilometre zone Friday. Fuel supplies and money transfers have been banned for two months.

Hrawi's mainly Muslim troops earlier took over the coastal and mountainous crossings into Aoun's enclave from the Christians' main militia headed by Samir Geagea.

The peaceful handover put the final seal on Geagea's allegiance to Hrawi, leaving Aoun ringed from all sides in his small pocket with no air, sea or land outlets.

Hrawi's government is giving the new siege two weeks to bring the maverick general to heel. If that fails, Hrawi's army backed by Syrian troops would attack to oust Aoun forcefully, several Beirut newspapers reported.

Among the main crossings taken by Hrawi's troops was the main coastal highway tunnel on the Dog River, 10 kilometres north of central Beirut.

Geagea's militiamen also handed to Hrawi's soldiers all gateways to Aoun's pockets from east Beirut's residential districts of Ashrafieh, Sin Al Fil and Dora.

The irregulars then withdrew to the walled command headquarters known as the War Council at the seaside district of Karantina.

There was no word on how many troops from Hrawi's estimated 20,000-man army were assigned to man the crossings into Aoun's zone.

They are permitted under the new restrictions to leave the encircled zone to Hrawi-controlled areas to escape the anticipated starvation.

## Abu Abbas warns U.S.

NICOSIA (Agencies) — A hardline Palestinian leader vowed Friday to strike at American interests "all over planet earth" if any Iraqi aircraft was attacked to enforce the air embargo of Iraq.

"America is the no. 1 terrorist country," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Mohammad Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), as saying.

"The U.S. administration's decision — which it imposed on the United Nations — for a land, sea and air blockade of Iraq is an overt act of aggression," INA quoted Mohammad Abbas, leader of the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), as saying.

In another development, House members hit snags when they sought to move ahead with a resolution backing Bush's moves to counter Iraq. But the earlier, larger arms sale proposal to be an attempt for sending items not needed for the crisis," he said.

At the U.S. Defense Department, spokesman Peter Williams said the proposed sale is "urgently needed."

But some supporters of Israel said there still was concern about offensive weapons included in the new package. They said those worries could be calmed if the administration comes up with a counterbalancing "security" package for Israel.

Representative Lee Hamilton, a Democrat, said a primary hang-up was lawmakers' nervousness that any congressional resolution might be seen as implicitly endorsing any future use of force by the United States.

"It's amazing," said a frustrated Representative William Broome, the senior Republican on the Foreign Affairs Committee. "We can get approval through the United Nations for the president's actions, but not through the Congress."

The administration has gone through the drafting stages over the past three weeks, there have been echoes of the Tonkin Gulf resolution, a 1964 act that was seen as authorising widening U.S. involvement in Vietnam.

Committee Chairman Dante Fascell, a Democrat, sought to make it clear that the document would only approve Bush's actions so far in the Gulf crisis, and leave out any mention of next steps.

It voiced support for Bush's "emphasis on diplomatic efforts, international sanctions and negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations" to achieve the

peaceful settlement.

"Iraq's non-retaliation to this clear and wide aggression affirms Iraq's serious keeness to seek peace and practical stances to achieve peace," he said.

"It is also to provide additional chances to avoid humanity the tragedies of war that the Americans and their allied aggressors are insinuating," the Iraqi official said.

"They have reached an advanced level in armament, human, material and economic levels," Ramadhan said.

But he said that Iraq has refrained from responding to the "aggressive and terrorist acts" by the American administration because it was still seeking a peaceful settlement.

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World leaders  
meet to discuss  
children

AMMAN (Petra) — For the first time ever, some 60 world leaders known to assemble today at the United Nations' headquarters in New York, not to discuss politics, but to discuss children.

The event, the World Summit for Children, provides a unique and unprecedented opportunity for the world's leaders, from all over the world to discuss children and their living conditions.

The conference, held at the initiative of Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan and Sweden, aims at drawing the world's attention, at the highest levels, to the concerns, concerns and problems of children, and at ensuring their basic commitment to place children high on the national agendas and to find the best means for improving their living conditions.

The conference, the first of its kind in human history, seeks to usher in children priority when drawing up policies and making allocations, because "they are the future leaders of the world and it is important that they receive the necessary protection at all times."

The summit will discuss the opportunities available for saving children, through cost-effective methods, including immunization, Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT), breast feeding as well as other low cost measures which can save the lives of millions of children who die of preventable diseases.

The Jordanian delegation to the conference will be headed by Queen Noor.

5,000 Indians return home on EC flights

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Community (EC) has organised eight unscheduled flights from Queen Alia International Airport to India to transport Indian evacuees who had been stranded in Jordan after arriving here from Kuwait and Iraq.

A report by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that EC head of delegation here Christian Falkowski supervised the process of repatriation of a large number of Indian nationals on these flights Thursday.

Falkowski was quoted by Petra as saying that the EC has undertaken the task of repatriating Indian nationals by supplying aircraft and that so far 6,000 have been repatriated under this programme.

**Arar delivers message to Libyan leader**

RIVOLI (Petra) — Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Arar, who heads a Jordanian parliamentary delegation to Libya, has delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to the Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi.

At the meeting, which was attended by the delegation members, the Libyan leader emphasised his support of Jordan's stand and urged the Libyan and Jordanian parliaments to coordinate their work in a manner that would bolster ties between the two countries.

Arar and the delegation members briefed the Libyan leader on Jordan's stand with regard to developments in the region, stressing on the inherent danger in the region military presence in the Arabian peninsula.

Arar is accompanied on the trip by Abdul Latif Ararabiyah, Shammad Dardour, Mohammad Alawneh and Fakhri Kawa.

## Prince Hassan urges U.S. Congress to support Gulf negotiations

WASHINGTON (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who is now in the United States, Thursday met with members of the U.S. House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Committee to discuss the Gulf crisis and Jordan's efforts to find a peaceful settlement to the issue.

Prince Hassan called on Congress members to support direct negotiations between Iraq and Kuwait as provided for in U.N. Security Council Resolution 660.

## CAA chief says resolution 670 concerns only cargo

AMMAN (J.T.) — Queen Alia International Airport officials said Friday that they had handled three Iraqi Airways flights from and to Baghdad, two in the morning and one at noon Friday, for the benefit of passengers evaluating the Gulf region.

Contacted by the Jordan Times, the airport officials confirmed a statement by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) director Mahmoud Balqaz that Jordan was strictly abiding by U.N. Security Council resolution 670 imposing an air embargo on the flight of cargo to and from Iraq and Kuwait.

CAA director said Thursday that Jordan was allowing passenger flights but no cargo except for humanitarian shipments of food and medicine.

Balqaz told Jordan Television that Security Council resolution

so as to find a political settlement to the crisis, and stressed that the Security Council had highlighted the Arab League's mediation efforts in this issue.

Later the Prince met separately with the chairman of house committees responsible for the armed forces, the Middle East and Europe and of the House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee with whom he reviewed developments in the Gulf

and Jordan's stand.

He explained economic difficulties encountered by Jordan as a result of its commitment to the sanctions imposed on Iraq in implementation of Security Council Resolution 661.

Prince Hassan called for speedy efforts to end the Gulf issue which, he said, has been endangering security and peace in the Middle East, and said that all the region's issues must be settled.



Women demonstrate in Amman (within International Red Cross Bureij refugee camp in Gaza Strip (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)



premises) to protest against Israel's arbitrary measures taken in

## Women stage protest against Israeli arbitrary measures in Gaza Strip

By Sana Atiyeh

AMMAN — With world attention focused on the Gulf crisis, a few hundred Jordanian and Palestinian women attempted to refocus attention on events in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip by staging a sit-in at the International Red Cross premises Friday to protest against Israel's arbitrary measures in the occupied territories, particularly in the Gaza Strip.

Some 250 women, many dressed in Palestinian embroidered gowns and black and white chequered headresses, sang national songs and yodeled as others carried banners calling attention to the Palestinian human rights.

Under resolution 670 the Security Council confirmed that its sanctions applied to all aircraft, and said that states should deny permission to any aircraft to take off from their territory if the aircraft carried cargo, other than humanitarian food or medical supplies, to Iraq or Kuwait.

It said that states must also deny any aircraft, whatever its port of origin, permission to fly over its territory if its destination was Iraq or Kuwait. Exceptions are for planes willing to land and permit cargo inspection.

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## Children deserve our best

WORLD attention is focusing nowadays on the United Nations headquarters, where some 70 world leaders will be meeting today for the first time in human history to discuss one subject only — children.

The world summit for children, originally called for by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), provides a unique opportunity for world leaders to unite around one goal, which is children — tomorrow's world and the future leaders and decision-makers.

The summit is aimed at placing children high on the political agenda and giving them the priority they deserve when drawing up national policies or making financial allocations and ensuring their protection at all times. The summit, coming at a crucial time when the children of Iraq and Palestine are denied their basic rights to food, milk and education, and when children of Lebanon and Sudan are killed by armed conflicts or by famine, is called upon to ensure that the decisions made by the great powers do not hit the children of the poor and the most vulnerable.

The summit, which seeks to put an end to the sufferings of millions of children and end the daily carnage of thousands of children who die needlessly because of preventable causes, should also address the effects of political decisions taken under the U.N. umbrella on the children of the world. In this regard, we can recall the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in November 1989. The convention stressed among other things the right of every child to food, water, health services, education and development. Despite this, Palestinian children are still denied the right to education through the repeated closure of schools and educational institutions in the occupied territories. They are also denied the right to grow up naturally, away from the fears and pressures of occupation.

Iraqi children are now denied the right to have enough food and milk, yet the world has not stepped forward to rectify their plight.

It is hoped that this summit would come up with concrete results and world-wide commitment to protect all children, in good and bad times without any regard to their colour, sex, religion, or their countries' political stands on various issues.

Children should be spared all these problems and concerns, and should be kept away from the disputes of the world of adults. Children should be allowed to live in peace, think freely and develop naturally, enjoying their full rights to dignified living.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i Friday called on the U.N. General Assembly to free itself of U.S. hegemony and to direct its attention towards solving the Palestine question as well as the Gulf crisis. The paper said that by linking the two issues in his initiative, Saddam Hussein has displayed to the world that Iraq was for international legitimacy and not opposed to the will of the United Nations but that the United States is doing otherwise. The paper noted that the United States is watching Israel committing terrorist campaigns in the occupied Gaza Strip, but is doing nothing to stop the aggressors. James Baker who has been bragging about justice and international legitimacy is watching the Palestinian homes being demolished and the Israeli occupation authorities committing mass atrocities against the Palestinian people without raising his voice to demand a halt to the persecution of the Palestinian civilians, the paper added. Iraq was right when it called on the United Nations to deal with all the problems of the Middle East because international legitimacy should not be divisible and selective, and Baghdad was right in demanding that Security Council resolutions adopted in 1967 should be implemented so that the problems of the Middle East can be settled, the paper noted. It said that the United Nations should now seek to convene an international conference which can supervise the implementation of all these resolutions if peace is to be achieved in our region.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily says that not-Jewish voices in Europe and the United States do not advocate war in the Gulf because they realise too well that war is bound to bring about untold losses for the United States and its interest in that region. Tareq Masarweh says that Jewish voices in Europe and the United States were quick to oppose a peace plan for the Gulf crisis as submitted by the French president to the United Nations because they do not want a peaceful settlement. The Europeans and Japanese realise that the sharp rise in the price of oil is bound to strangle their industries and cause economic recession in Europe and Japan, and they also realise that the massing of troops in the Gulf can by no means force the Iraqis to withdraw from Kuwait, says the writer. He notes that Mitterrand has come up with his plan to safeguard peace and ensure the safety of European interests, something which is not to the taste of the Zionists in the United States. Should Iraq launch a war and succeed in driving away the enemy, the interests of the United States and its allies in the region will be in deep trouble, and should the Iraqi attack fail, at least the oil fields will be devastated and it will take long years to reconstruct them, Masarweh adds. He says in any case, and without a peace plan that can safeguard the interests of all parties to the conflict, the losses will be great for the United States and its allies.

Al Dastour daily said that the anti-American demonstrations in Tehran and other Iranian cities display clearly that the Arabs and Muslims can by no means accept foreign occupation of the holy lands in the Arabian peninsula. The paper said that the renewed call by Iran on Muslims to wage a holy war on the Americans and their allies is a renewed manifestation of the wrath of the Muslims of the world in the light of the current situation in the Gulf and the deployment of foreign forces and Israeli troops to launch attack on a Muslim nation.

By Izzat Dajani

"WE are all stubborn stiff-necked people" was Teddy Kollek's best explanation to Israel's claims over Arab East Jerusalem. Mr. Kollek, the Israeli mayor of Jerusalem, is a witness to the fact that Palestinians born under occupation are the very ones demanding Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Their legitimate demands stem from their aspirations to express their identity in a Palestinian state with East Jerusalem as its capital. However, Palestinian rights, aspirations and legitimate demands are constantly challenged and ignored by Israel.

The Arab-Israeli conflict in general, and the Palestinian-Jewish conflict over Palestine in particular, has been going on for over 40 years, since the state of Israel was created. The conflict is characterised by fear and mistrust. The Israelis claim not to trust the Palestinians as

being truly committed to peace. They mistrust the PLO, its ability and credibility in enforcing a peaceful settlement upon the Palestinian people and the various functions within the Palestinian movement. Sadly, they refuse to admit the legitimacy of the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians.

In return, the Palestinians are more familiar than others with Israel and Israeli policy. They are witnesses and victims of Israeli aggression and expansionist policy in the area. Palestinian renunciation of terrorism is rewarded by state-sponsored terrorism by Israel itself. This is best demonstrated by Israel's interventionist policies in Lebanon, Tunisia and the Arab World at large. Israel has self-appointed itself the "police man" of the region when it is the convict.

While both sides emphasise the rhetoric of mistrust and fear, the Israelis fail to address the issue of reality. The

Palestinians have moved many steps forward in recognising reality and making it dominate their fears. They accepted the call for an international peace conference to implement a final settlement in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. Meanwhile, Israel fails, or worse still refuses to see reality. It refuses to deal with the PLO. It insists on the right to appoint its "own" Palestinian negotiators. It wants peace while keeping the occupied territories. Israel's idiosyncrasy is best expressed in the saying: baking one's own cake and eating it.

While Israel ignores the

Palestinian paradigm of facing one's own reality, the peace process, per se, remains futile. Palestinians of all ages and from both sexes are constantly and routinely being humiliated by the Israeli occupying forces. Homes are being levelled to the ground for ridiculous and false accusations. People are

being imprisoned without trial and routinely deported. The harshest economic and social measures are being enforced upon the Palestinians. To this grossly inhuman behaviour, the U.S. administration chose to ignore congressional calls for cutting aid to Israel, the country that in accordance to American law violates human rights. Instead it continues to contribute \$10 million daily to the state of Israel. Isn't this American double standard? And if not, then America is contributing to inhumanity and is losing money, taxpayers' money, that could be spent on many worthy causes.

In a recent Rand study, it was concluded that the Arab-Israeli conflict can only be resolved by creating a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza. It urged both Israel and the United States to accept this "inevitable compromise." Israeli opposition to Palestinian statehood could prove

very costly and endanger Israeli "security" in the long term, the report concluded. It may be appropriate to add in this context that Israel is a victim of its "surprise" victories in its wars with the Arab neighbours. It is suffering from an ailment best described as "superiority complex." This led to its intransigence whereby it is pushing its luck beyond the threshold of Arab dignity and tolerance. There need not be a reminder that the Arab World never chose Israel as its neighbour. Israel should never forget or ignore this fact and must hitherto come to better terms with itself and envision its future realistically.

In a recent speech, at Harvard Law School, retired General Yehoshafat Harkabi, reflected his dismay with Israel's attitude towards peace. Harkabi, a former chief of Israeli military intelligence, and currently a professor at Hebrew University, said it would be foolish and short-

ighted for Israelis to think and assume that only they have rights over Jerusalem. He stressed that it was not in Israel's interest to realise that it was not a custodian of the Christian and Muslim holy places. It simply cannot have peace without trading it for land, including the land of East Jerusalem.

Unfortunately, Israelis assume more positive, moderate and sensible realistic attitudes when they are not in public office and are not answerable to their constituents and voters. Peace will become more of a reality when those in office, including Mayor Kollek, start speaking the "language" of General Harkabi, or more appropriately, Professor Harkabi.

Still we are left with the constant reminder, best expressed by a Jordanian diplomat, that the only peace Israel seems to understand is a piece of Jordan, a piece of Syria and a piece of Lebanon.

## Coup rumours fuelled by unrest in Soviet army

By Robert Evans  
Reuter

MOSCOW — The red-faced colonel glared down the hall at the prime minister of the Russian federation and almost spat out his message: "Don't you dare raise your hand against our glorious armed forces."

Echoing hard-line Communist figures now eased from most power positions by Mikhail Gorbachev, one senior general, Albert Makashov, told a Communist Party conference this summer that the president's foreign policy had left the country open to aggression.

Makashov, who commands the Ural military district where many defence plants are located, became a hero among both political and military conservatives, while radicals wondered why Gorbachev took no action against him.

It was one of his senior officers, Colonel Anatoly Kutukov, who issued the warning to Russian Prime Minister Ivan Silayev at last week's meeting, attended also by Yazov and almost the entire hierarchy of the army, air force and navy.

"Do not touch the military-industrial complex. Do not seek cuts in defence spending," Kutukov told Silayev, whose government is pushing ahead with a 500-day programme to rescue the crisis-ridden economy and switch it to a market system.

The central Soviet parliament is still agonising over the introduction of the programme for the entire country. It sets a reduction of 20 per cent in expenditure on the armed forces as a key measure to slash a huge government budget deficit.

Kutukov, Rodionov and other military figures argue that the West, particularly the United States, maintains an offensive posture towards the Soviet Union despite agreement between Gorbachev and President George Bush that the cold war is over.

Over the past few weeks, Moscow military commentators have also pointed to the rapid American buildup in the Gulf following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait as evidence that the U.S. remains a real potential threat to the Soviet Union's security.

But there is no doubt that unrest is growing throughout the Soviet officer corps as the country slides from the rigid political and economic system of seven decades towards the type of chaotic free-for-all abhorred by any military mind.

"When are they going to stop this mocking of the army and of our mighty state?" demanded Igor Rodionov, head of the armed forces' general staff academy in an article this month in the Russian nationalist journal Molodaya Gvardiya.

General Rodionov's outburst, like many others from senior military figures over the past year, was sparked by an increasing volume of criticism in the free-wheeling Soviet media of the army and the way it conducts its affairs.

Journalists and deputies to the Soviet parliament have accused the military hierarchy of a wide range of offences ranging from allowing institutionalised bullying to outright corruption.

This week a disillusioned general told one Moscow weekly he had been pensioned off at 48 as deputy commander of the country's air defence forces for arguing with Yazov on how to prevent flight accidents killing many young pilots.

Accustomed at least since the mid-1960s to operating as a semi-within-a-state where any public discussion of their activities was barred on the grounds of security, the armed forces have not taken kindly to the new days.

## 'More responsibility not more power'

By Tom Heneghan  
Reuter

BONN — Only a few weeks ago, nervous neighbours were asking whether a unified Germany would become a fourth reich, a continental colossus or an arrogant world power too big for its allies.

Then Iraq took over Kuwait and the Germans — wary of military action after their Nazi-scarred past — stood back as the West rushed troops and ships to the Gulf.

Suddenly there were urgent calls for Bonn to send money, equipment and even soldiers. A Soviet expert on German affairs suggested big power status for the new state with a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council.

The Oct. 3 merger of East and West Germany is coming so fast that neither the Germans nor their neighbours are "sure" yet what role the "unexpected" state will play.

The new Germany, in many respects and enlargement of Bonn's pro-Western federal republic, will be Europe's richest country and second only to the United States in population.

Its voice will be heard around the globe. Its chancellor will be one of the world's most influential men and its currency one of the strongest.

But how will the people who twice in this century fought and failed to dominate Europe use their new-found power?

Cautiously, most Germans say. "There cannot be another German reich, just as there cannot be another Spanish empire or another far-flung British colonial empire," says Golo Mann, one of Germany's leading historians.

"(The new Germany) will not be a military big power, because it does not want to be one and it would not make sense to be one. European civilisation — and this goes for America and Russia as well — has simply grown out of the age of wars."

"It will be an economic world

change their policy".

While remaining pro-European, a united Germany straddling the old cold war divide will also encourage the community to look towards the ex-communist east.

The Germans are already the main traders and financiers for countries such as the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, now turning West after decades of communist isolation.

"A united Germany must stand up for these neighbours in the East," says Kohl's Foreign Policy Adviser Horst Teitsch.

"The result could be... a Europe of free democratic states with the same economic order and currency... leading to a united Europe with a federal structure at the end of the road."

Despite general support for these goals, the leaders of a united Germany may need several years to tackle the domestic problems unification will bring before taking a decisive lead on the international front.

"Germany will be weaker at first, not stronger", a European diplomat said. He said the billions of dollars pledged so far to the



## LETTERS

### Some mid-crisis thoughts

To the Editor:-

The following points are not intended as lessons or even tips for the uninitiated (are there still any of those around?) Rather, they are meant just as simple reminders:

1. The minute a state accepts the first foreign aid dollar, it has kissed its sovereignty good-bye.

2. Just like English law, international law is open for everyone like the Savoy Hotel.

3. America's "friends" in the Middle East are on really very short leashes.

4. Uncle Sam is still tethered by the same very short leash to Tel Aviv.

5. Some Arab-Arab animosities are more intense than some Arab-Israeli ones.

6. One of the sources of international law is the practices of "civilised" nations. Jesus!

7. A good precedent for the present crisis is the Korean war.

8. Watching Henry Kissinger give his "expert opinion" on the Gulf crisis, I couldn't help sighing "God, political 'science' is going down the drains, after linguistics, education and economics."

9. Some circles have expressed dissatisfaction with the way the crisis has been dealt with in the Jordanian press. Man, democracy is a two-way street.

10. The U.S. as a democracy has no control over what is said and written in its press. The censoring is done in Tel Aviv.

11. Why shouldn't Israel stay put, when Uncle Sam is doing all the work and sending its national debt into the quadrillion bracket?

12. George could bomb his creditors out of existence if they get too pushy. He may dub this bombing campaign "debt shield."

13. But first he has to persuade his creditors to foot the bill for this shield.

14. A cashier in a California supermarket once intimated to me

that the U.S. should have a national lottery to pay the national debt.

15. Maybe George got wind of the cashier's proposal. One possible explanation could run as follows: George consulted Ron who, thumping his desk furiously, asked Nancy what could be done about those goddamn Iranians.

17. Not bothering to correct Ron, Nancy decided to check with his astrologer in S.F.

18. S.F. relayed the message to Tel Aviv through TV Guide's Emborg of Santa Barbara.

19. Even the most cynical American should be prepared to admit that Saddam Hussein has at least one point to his credit: he does not maintain a \$60 billion personal bank account! The former Emir of Kuwait still does. Other members of his family maintain slightly less than that. Poor things!

20. This is money none of them has worked for.

21. Saddam in one sense is out to get a bunch of crooks.

## Berlin struggles to regain role as German capital

By Andrew Gumbel  
Reuter

EAST BERLIN — For 45 years of cold war, Berlin was the capital neither Germany could ever quite have.

The city's division after World War II prevented East or West from laying full claim to a metropolis the history, size and cosmopolitan feel of which were unrivaled in either Germany.

Now at last Berlin has come in from the cold. Politicians, businessmen and tourists are storming this Prussian city of nearly four million on the spree.

From October 3 it will be the official capital of a united Germany, as it was from the age of Bismarck until the demise of Hitler's Third Reich.

Again it can aspire to its 1920s reputation as the vibrant centre of Europe, described by novelist Conrad Alberi as "like alcohol, morphine, cocaine, exciting, inspiring, relaxing, deadly: a world city."

Or can it?

Four decades of division cannot be erased at a stroke. East and West may cease to be political terms after unification, but Berlin will continue to look and feel like two distinct places for years.

The west's smart apartment blocks and busy boulevards look incongruous next to the shabby tenements and run-down factories of the east. There are still frustratingly few telephones and

road links, and they are over-loaded most of the time.

"The ceremonies on October 3 are just for the politicians. Unification on the ground will only get under way after that," a tourism official said. The wall may be gone, but psychological barriers persist.

Berlin is still having to fight for its right to be a full capital. The problem this time is not ideological rivalry but a small town on the Rhine.

Bonn, nicknamed the "federal village," has served as West German capital since 1949 on the understanding that it was merely deputising for Berlin.

Bonn's Mayor Hans Daniels told Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as much, months before Communism collapsed in the East last year. Now, with his back to the wall, he is taking a very different line.

Daniels argues that moving the government to traditionally leftist Berlin will overcentralise Germany, erode its federal structure,

and cost up to 100 billion marks (\$64 billion). Several of West Germany's powerful state premiers, fearful for their prerogatives, share his misgivings.

Conservative Bonn, which has

grown faster as capital than in any other time in its 2,000-year history, won a breathing space when the unity treaty between the two Germanys named Berlin as capital but left open where the government should sit.

Berlin accuses Daniels of parochialism and says the move would cost less than 10 billion marks (\$6 billion).

"Berlin... is the only place which equally represents both parts of Germany, east and west," the city's two mayors, Tina Schwierzina and Walter Momper, said in a joint statement.

The Brandenburg gate, long a prisoner of the Berlin wall, is once more the symbol of German unity.

Opinion polls show few West Germans feel much affection for sleepy old Bonn, a "one-company town" of 300,000. But diplomats say some foreign governments would be reassured if a resurgent, unified Germany kept its modest headquarters on the Rhine.

The dispute seems trivial compared to the global crises Berlin endured during its division. The superpowers clashed over security issues and the cold war turned hot, the chances were it would do so in Berlin.

This continual tension, begun with the Soviet blockade of West Berlin in 1948 and sealed with the building of the wall 13 years later, created a claustrophobic atmosphere.

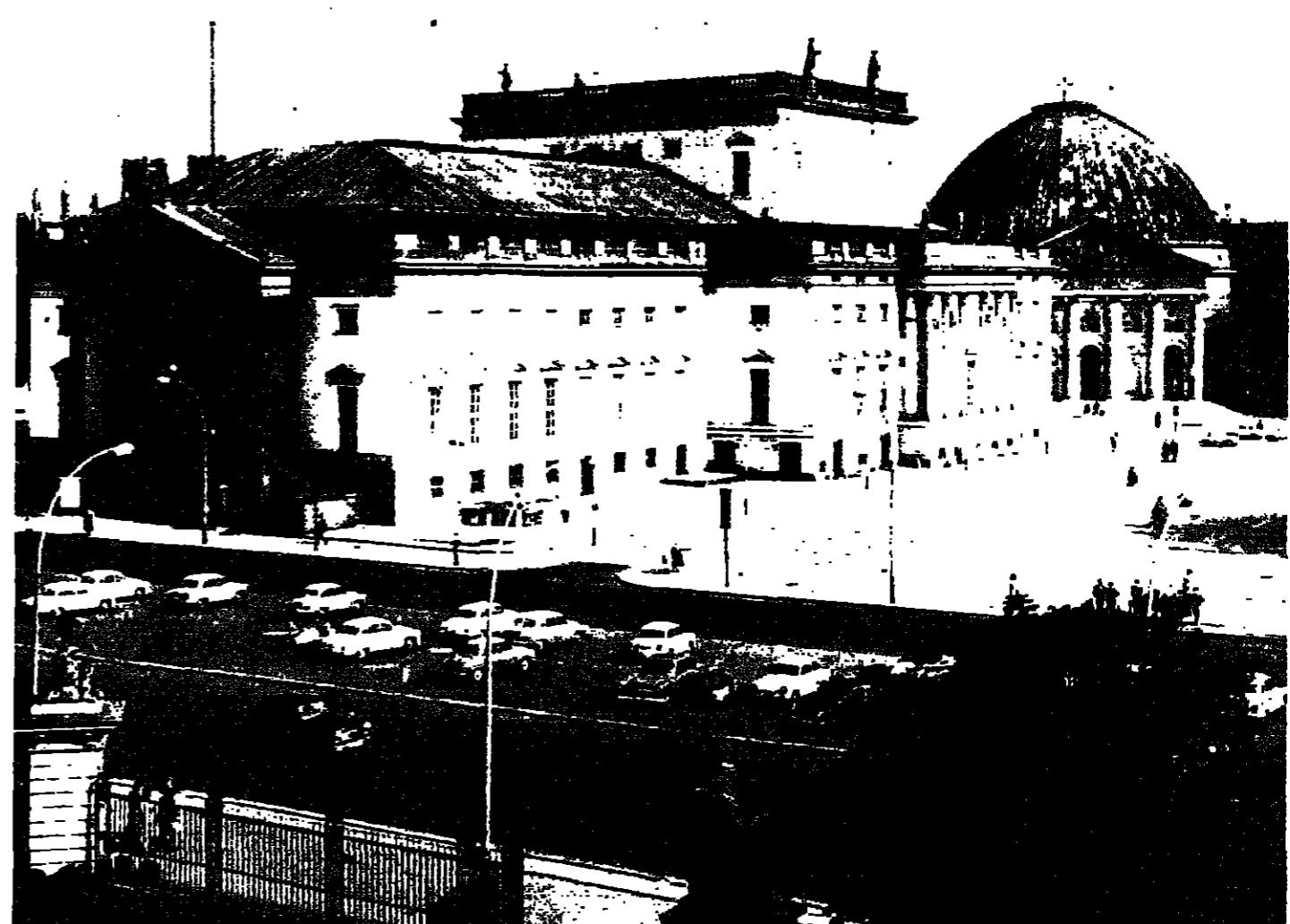
The tumultuous changes that followed have brought further confusion as rich Western businessmen, Polish bargain hunters and Romanian beggars have flooded in.

The lure of history in the making has also drawn swarms of

tourists. Hotel rooms are scarce, prices have soared, traffic chokes the streets.

Crime, including racist violence, is on the rise and the gap between rich whites and poor blacks has increased social tension and fuelled right-wing extremism.

Berlin Opera House — symbol of the city's cultural and historical role in German life (File photo)



Berlin Opera House — symbol of the city's cultural and historical role in German life (File photo)

soon be just another noisy, dirty capital.

West Berliners call it the price of freedom.

The result of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

"I am optimistic. I think Cyprus will eventually be a united island. After all I never thought Germany will be united in my lifetime," said Kate Clerides.

While the island appears no closer to reunification, the Greek-Cypriot south takes comfort in economic progress, made largely on earnings from 1.3 million tourists a year, and aspires to join the European Community.

The northern economy has lagged far behind the south's since 1974.

"In the past 30 years we have developed an economy, a society and a political system which has allowed us to apply for EC membership," a highly-placed Cypriot official told Reuters.

"This is no minor achievement," he said.

Cyprus' only woman MP, writer Rina Kassabli, a refugee from Turkish-held Kyrenia, says of the independence anniversary:

"I think we should be using this opportunity to brief the world on the continuing occupation. And we must do some serious soul-searching."

## Soviet warning

(Continued from page 1)

embassy in Moscow on Soviet-made weapons used by Iraq.

Moiseyev said he was personally involved in assembling for the United States a package of information about the weapons, the Post reported.

Moiseyev has been chief of general staff since December 1988, subordinate only to Defense Minister Dmitri Yazov and President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Post quoted him as saying the Kremlin had quietly withdrawn nuclear warheads from potential ethnic trouble spots around the country.

Moiseyev said the Soviet leadership recognised an obligation to ensure complete security over nuclear weapons.

His comments were the first Soviet confirmation of Western reports that the Kremlin had taken extra measures to safeguard the world's largest stockpile of nuclear weapons in view of internal instability.

### Carter deplores approach

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has predicted that war is more likely to break out in the Gulf because the United States and its allies seem unwilling to negotiate with Iraq.

Speaking to a group of Atlanta businessmen, Carter said: "Chances are that a war is going to break out unless there is some wisdom and reticence in dealing with (Iraq) to let (it) withdraw from Kuwait without losing face."

But Carter said he sees no indication that the Western powers intend to enter talks with Iraq. "Our government and others involved with us do not appear to be prepared to talk, negotiate and exchange ideas."

Carter said that if "international sanctions and pressure exerted by the world community" do not convince Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait the likely outcome is "all-out attack."

"There are some voices that have suggested that Iraq should be destroyed," he said.

Carter said that he concurs with an assessment by William Crowe, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, that a war with Iraq would be "a devastating catastrophe" for both sides.

### U.S. pledge to Israel

Israel has been assured of a strong response from the United States if it is attacked by Iraq, two leading U.S. newspapers reported Friday.

The New York Times said in a front-page report that U.S. officials had told Israel in recent days that any Iraqi attack on the Jewish state would set off a vigorous American response.

The Washington Post, quoting diplomatic sources, said the United States had assured Israel that if it was attacked Washington would stand by its commitment to Israeli "security" and retaliate against Iraq, even if that required force.

The papers said assurances

## Israelis raze homes, shops

(Continued from page 1)

were given by Secretary of State James Baker when he met Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy in New York Wednesday.

Iraq meanwhile issued a dire warning about "the coming fire," saying war in the region would extend to oil fields, Israel, Saudi Arabia and other Arab states.

The government newspaper Al Jomhouriya said "the battle areas would be multiple, and the fires would devour all oil fields.

The invaders and their traitor stooges and Zionists who are adding oil on the fire to ensure their aggressive presence on the Arab land bear full responsibility for the coming fire," the newspaper said in an editorial.

It said Iraq, "which is standing in the forefront of the Arab Nation and the Islamic World for ousting foreign occupation forces from the sacred Arab lands and restoring the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, is ready to offer all sacrifices that guarantee non-submission to the hegemony of American imperialism."

The Iraqi News Agency said President Saddam Hussein plans a speech Sunday, the birthday of the Prophet Mohammad.

The agency did not indicate what the message might be, but said he would address a Baghdad rally with the theme: "Holy war is the duty of all believers to purge the holy shrines of occupation."

Another Iraqi newspaper, Al Qudsia, accused Israel and Egypt Friday of setting up an intelligence station to pick up data on the movement of Iraqi troops (see page 2).

Iraq meanwhile assured Western diplomats in Baghdad that it was not threatening to hang them for sheltering foreigners in their missions. Western governments had seen the "threat" in the warning that hiding foreigners was a capital offence.

In Washington, Iraq's Ambassador Mohammad Al Mashat denied that any threats have been made against diplomats in Iraq and Kuwait.

"We're not threatening anyone," Mashat told reporters after a meeting at the State Department.

Later, U.S. officials said Mashat said he was unaware of the "warning" notes' existence. The department released this text of the Iraqi note from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

"Revolutionary Command Council resolution No. 341 dated 8-26-90 stipulates that housing a foreigner for the purpose of hiding him or her from the authorities is a crime of espionage. The punishment of death shall be imposed on the individual who commits such a crime."

"The ministry will appreciate it if the esteemed mission would kindly inform the ministry of whether any of its citizens or any other nation's citizens are residing in the mission's embassies and your diplomatic residences, whether or not these citizens have contracts with the government or are working with foreign companies operating in Iraq."

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## Cheney: Crisis coming to a head

(Continued from page 1)

of our interest in thwarting Iraq's aggression is open-ended. How long it will require U.S. military force to keep that commitment is a question that nobody can answer today," he said.

"We are there as long as we need to be there," he declared.

Regarding the eventual size of the growing U.S. presence, Cheney said that sending any forces requires sending large forces. "We've got an obligation to send enough forces...so that we don't leave them exposed at the end of a long supply line," he said.

## Cyprus — still divided on 30th anniversary

By Bouli Ghinis  
Reuter

NICOSIA — Independent for 30 years and divided for more than half of them, Cyprus is a small island with a big problem and mixed feelings about a birthday party.

Greek Cypriots in the prosperous south will celebrate with a parade on Oct. 1, stressing their government's international standing.

Turkish Cypriots on the other side of the green line will ignore the event but have chosen the same day to emphasize their ties with mainland Turkey, which invaded the North in 1974.

Rauf Denktash, whose minister in the north is recognised by no country but Turkey, calls the festivities in the south "a great folly."

"I don't see what we are celebrating," says Christakis Karsanas, editor of leading Greek-Cypriot newspaper Phileftimos.

But President George Vassilios, whose government controls two-thirds island, will take the salute at a military march-past in southern Nicosia, flanked by foreign guests.

The actual date of independence was Aug. 16, 1960. It is celebrated in October to avoid the summer heat.

Guerrilla war by Greek Cypriots in the 1950s brought an end to British colonial rule but failed to win them their dream of union with Greece.

Instead, the Eastern Mediterranean island became an independent state with a complex constitution intended to protect the rights of the Turkish-Cypriot minority. Both communities lived island-wide before the 1974 invasion when refugee movements concentrated Turks in the north and Greeks in the south.

The 1960 arrangement was guaranteed by Britain, which kept sovereign bases on the island, Greece and Turkey. But it was widely seen as a temporary compromise. Communal fighting and political disputes soon paralysed much of the constitution.

Turkey's invasion followed a coup in Nicosia backed by the military Junta then ruling Greece.

Most Greek Cypriots had by then lost their pre-independence enthusiasm for union with Greece, but Ankara saw the coup

as a serious threat to the safety of Turkish Cypriots.

"We got off on the wrong foot," says Kate Clerides, daughter of veteran politician Glafcos Clerides and an aspiring politician in her own right.

"No one wanted independence back in 1960. So we started out all wrong. It's a paradox, because now, we are committed to independence, but one third of the country is occupied," she told Reuters.

While Valliou reviews the Oct. 1 parade in the south, Denktash and other leaders in the north will be welcoming the prime minister of Turkey, Yildirim Akbulut.

U.N.-sponsored talks about reunification are stalled over whether the 160,000 Turkish Cypriots are a distinct people with the right to self-determination, as Denktash insists, or an ethnic minority sharing their nationality with the 600,000 Greek Cypriots as envisaged by the 1960 constitution.

Superpower cooperation in the crisis over Iraq's takeover of Kuwait also gives Greek Cypriots hope that a revived United Nations might be better able to undo

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## Chinese track monopoly broken, but hosts dominate Asian Games

**PEKING (AP)** — A gritty Japanese distance runner and the continent's fastest human broke China's monopoly on victory in track and field competition at the 11th Asian Games Friday.

But China has gathered 11 of 13 golds during the first two days and engineered 1-2 sweeps in eight events. It won seven of the golds Tuesday.

Defending champion and Asian record holder Tala Mansoor of Qatar reassured his claim to the unofficial title of "Asia's fastest human" with a clear victory in the 100-metre event.

His time of 10.30 seconds equalled his games record set in Seoul four years ago.

China's Zheng Chen, once the fastest in Asia, won the silver in 10.51. Sriyana Dissanayake was third in 10.64.

In the men's 10,000 metres, Japan's Koichi Morishita kept just behind China's Zhang Guowei until the final lap, when he mustered a tremendous burst of speed and left Zhang Gasping far behind him.

Morishita sprinted across the

## N. Korean boxers banned from games after attack on referee

**PEKING (R)** — North Korea was thrown out of Asian Games boxing Friday for an attack on a referee, as its officials slammed the quality of judging and hinted at bribery.

Two North Korean coaches climbed into the ring and assaulted the referee after their fighter Ton Su-Yong lost to Iran's Iraj Kiarostami in a super-heavyweight first round bout Thursday night.

Calling the incident a disgrace, president of the Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA) Anwar Chowdhury said a four-man boxing jury had decided to ban the whole squad.

The jury also recommended to the AIBA that it suspend the North Korean Boxing Federation from the organisation, an action it will be debated at a meeting in Sydney in November.

"The chief coach knew referee Mohammad Guznavi of Pakistan was in the group. He has been passing blood in his urine all night," said the head of the AIBA, the

## Aston Villa seeks to stop Gascoigne

**LONDON (AP)** — Jozef Venglos did not encounter England's Gascoigne when he managed Czechoslovakia during soccer's World Cup.

Because England and Czechoslovakia did not clash during the finals in Italy in June, Venglos was an interested spectator as Gascoigne introduced himself as one of the game's most talented newcomers.

On Saturday, however, Venglos has the task of finding a way of stopping the Tottenham midfielder, who has made a stunning start to the English domestic season with nine goals in seven games.

For Venglos now is manager of Aston Villa, which meets Tottenham in league action.

Venglos is impressed by what he has seen of Gascoigne.

"He has some special in-born qualities and talent. He is also a player of unpredictability. He has vision of the game which prob-

ably not many other players have," he said.

At Aston Villa, the 58-year-old Czechoslovak replaced Graham Taylor, who now manages the England national team.

Although he faces an in-form Gascoigne, Venglos knows he has another of England's World Cup stars on his side. He is David Platt, who scored three World Cup goals for England and has tallied six times in seven games of the domestic season.

"David Platt is a player of excellent balance both in attacking and defending activities," Venglos said.

"He is in the top football level and you can compare him with Lothar Matthaus (West Germany's World Cup captain), especially in finishing."

"He is excellent in his reading of the game and has good timing of passes."

His Villa side so far has not shown the form that took it to the runners-up spot behind Liverpool.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH  
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#### DOUBLE ALERT

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**

♦ A ♦ K 9 6

♦ A ♦ K 9 3 2

♦ K 3 2

**WEST**

♦ K J 10 6

♦ Q 10 4

♦ J 8 7 2

♦ J 7 6 5

♦ J 10 7 5

♦ A ♦ 9 8 6 4

**SOUTH**

♦ A ♦ Q 8 7 5 4 3

♦ 5 3

♦ Q 8 4

♦ Q

The bidding:

South West North East

3 ♦ Pass 4 ♦ Pass

Pass Dbl Pass Pass

Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♦

The regular members of the bridge club knew better than to double Trump Coup Tommy when they held a trump stack—Tommy had a

way of making seemingly sure trump tricks vanish. But on hands where everything lay well, Tommy could be relied on to drop a trick a two, so that speculative doubles on high cards when Tommy was at the helm invariably yielded good results.

in division one last season. But it has recovered from a sluggish start to post two victories and two ties in its last four league and cup games.

Unbeaten in its six league cahionship, Kang said all team members were inspired by the spirit of their president, Kim Il-Sung.

They carry the "badge of great

leader Kim Il-Sung in their hearts

and only this can inspire them in their performances," Kang said.

Contests involving North

Korea often become very emotional.

Kang said all team members

were inspired by the spirit of

their president, Kim Il-Sung.

There have been two big accidents in the last two Grands Prix.

Last Sunday's Portuguese round

of the World Championship was

curtailed when the arrows driven

by Italian Alex Caffi slammed

into the barriers at Estoril. He

suffered ankle injuries.

In the previous race, the Italian

Grand Prix at Monza, Donnelly's

team mate Derek Warwick

escaped uninjured after a spec-

tacular accident in which his

Lotus overturned and slid 150

metres along the track upside

down.

Donnelly was taken to the cir-

cuit medical centre where it was

announced that his life was not in

danger.

A spokesman said: "He has a

broken left leg and severe head

injuries, but he is conscious and

talking.

Afterwards, he said: "What

happened last week at Estoril

produced some conflict within the

team. But everyone in the team is

very professional and now all the

positions have been clarified.

They will all work together for a

good result in all the last three

races.

"Perhaps we have lost our first

objective, the World Cham-

pionship, but while we still have a

small percentage of a chance to

win we don't want to give up."

Last weekend at the Por-

tuguese Grand Prix, Mansell won

the race after making a poor start

from pole position and acciden-

tally baulking his team

Prost on the grid.

Prost later blamed Mansell for

the incident and, conceding he

had lost his chance of retaining

the team's inability to provide

any racing strategy.

Prost even went so far as to say

that Ferrer did not deserve to

win the world championship be-

cause they were disorganized and

lacked leadership, a clear refer-

ence to the Ferrari team Manager

Cesare Fiorio.

Fusaro, however, said Thurs-

day that he still had full confi-

dence in Fiorio and that he hoped

both the team manager and Prost

would still be with Ferrari next

year.

He said it was only natural for

Prost to express his disappoint-

"He is only human," said

Fusaro.

Fusaro, making a rare visit to

a circuit on the eve of Sunday's

Spanish Grand Prix, held a meet-

ing with Ferrari team Manager

Cesare Fiorio, Prost and Briton

Nigel Mansell.

Afterwards, he said: "What

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Cesare Fiorio.

Fusaro, making a rare visit to

# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1990 7

## Finance ministers say world able to withstand Gulf crisis

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Finance ministers have concluded their annual meetings with assurances that the global economy can weather the impact of the Gulf crisis with sensible strategies and a little help from friends.

One of those policies is to pass along oil price increases to consumers, said Michel Camdessus, director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The impact of Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of oil-rich Kuwait and the consequent rise in oil prices dominated weeklong sessions of the IMF and the World Bank, which ended Thursday.

Officials of both lending organizations expressed worries about the possibility of a global recession connected with the crisis.

Oil prices hovered around \$40 a barrel Thursday, even though U.S. President George Bush announced release of five million barrels from the United States' strategic reserves a day earlier.

Meanwhile, the World Bank signalled it may lack sufficient resources to handle the economic shocks of the crisis, including oil price hikes, displaced workers, and loss of exports for some countries.

Both institutions pledged help for countries suffering the brunt of the economic impact, but support figures have yet to be worked out. Some officials stayed behind to discuss specifics of a multi-billion-dollar effort under

World Bank President Barber

the leadership of the U.S. treasury.

"Countries will suffer from the

Gulf crisis, but this is manageable as long as (debtors) follow good policies and the international support matches the efforts of the countries themselves," Camdessus said Thursday.

"Cloudy" prospects

While opening the annual meetings, Camdessus had described world prospects as "cloudy." At the close, he said, "there is a silver lining."

Camdessus said the consensus of finance ministers is "that the challenge demands a firm policy response from all members, and the widespread acceptance of the view that oil price increases should be passed through to consumers."

"Front-line" states

Camdessus also said the leaders agreed on a collective responsibility to assist the "front-line" states of Turkey, Egypt and Jordan in the Gulf crisis as well as existing resources.

Finance ministers from 154 member nations attended the IMF-World Bank meetings, in addition to a delegation from the Soviet Union, the only major power without membership in the Sister institutions.

Both Camdessus and Connable said they held discussions with the visiting Soviets but indicated that it would be some time before the Soviet Union would qualify for membership.

Five million barrels would not affect prices

## Bush's decision to tap reserves raises questions

**NEW YORK (R)** — President George Bush's decision to sell five million barrels to oil out of America's strategic reserves was seen as a shot across the bow of the oil markets and analysts doubted Thursday it would have much impact on prices any time soon.

The move to dip into the 590-million-barrel strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) was announced late Wednesday in a bid to slow soaring oil prices, but was viewed as a token gesture aimed at warning that the economy cannot withstand oil prices at current levels.

Five million barrels of oil represent only about a third of the petroleum processed in a single day in U.S. refineries and is less than a third of the 17 million barrels consumed in the United States every day.

Thursday's oil markets largely ignored the announcement with prices continuing to soar on the New York mercantile exchange. Crude oil for November delivery hit \$40.10 a

barrel in early trading, the highest in 10 years.

The market remained fearful that war would break out soon in the Middle East.

In Washington, Energy Secretary James Watkins Thursday asked Congress for permission to test the SPR by drawing down the oil at a rate of up to 500,000 barrels a day.

"Washington is sending a message to the market," said Richard Marose, analyst at Prudential-Bache, but George Friesen, oil analyst at Deutsche Bank Group, added that "to have a significant impact on the market, something more than a token is required."

Oil prices have nearly doubled since Iraq seized Kuwait Aug. 2, lifting retail petrol prices by an average \$0.235 to \$1.31 a gallon, according to a recent American automobile association survey.

The move by Bush marks the first time the emergency reserves have been tapped since it was established in 1975,

two years after the Arab oil embargo. The SPR holds its reserves in Texas and Louisiana salt caverns.

Analysts said Bush was unlikely to order a full scale withdrawal of the reserve without assurances other nations would dip into their own stockpiles.

"If we were to use the SPR in a sustained way it would only be in coordination with other members of the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), said Cambridge Energy Research Associates' President Daniel Yergin.

The IEA's governing board of 21 oil importing nations met in Paris Friday to discuss whether members should tap their respective stockpiles to counter soaring world oil prices.

So far, officials from Britain, Germany and Japan have said they have no plans to sell oil from their government reserves

Yamani said there was no economic reason whatsoever for a buying and stocking spree and consequent rise in prices.

The former Saudi official, who founded and heads the London-based Centre for Global Energy Studies, said his centre estimated the world had 99 days of oil stocks.

He projected a price of \$32 to \$35 a barrel if stocks were reduced to 96 days, and \$21 to \$22 a barrel if stocks were reduced to 90 days.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris requires its member countries and their oil companies to keep a minimum of 90 days of stocks.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, September 27, 1990		Central Bank official rates
Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	656.0	660.0
Pound Sterling	1226.8	1234.2
Deutschmark	418.5	421.0
Swiss franc	502.9	505.9
French franc	125.0	125.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	477.4	480.3
Dutch guilder	371.2	373.4
Swedish crown	113.8	114.5
Italian lira (for 100)	56.0	56.3
Belgian franc (for 10)	203.3	204.5

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In  
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MADEMOISELLES**  
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Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.



Ahmed Zaki Yamani

## Oil prices could go \$100 a barrel

**LONDON (Agencies)** — Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the former Saudi Arabian oil minister, Thursday said oil prices would go beyond \$100 a barrel if Saudi oil fields were damaged in a Gulf war.

But he also said there would be a price crash if the crisis were resolved peacefully and high stocks held by oil companies and governments were not drawn down.

Oil prices were about \$40 a barrel Friday.

"It will go over \$100 a barrel," if Saudi oil fields are damaged, Yamani said in response to a question during a meeting with a small group of reporters.

Yamani said it was unlikely that Iraq would be able to damage Saudi oil fields, though such an eventuality could not be ruled out.

He also said a peaceful solution leading to a price crash would probably be followed by a meeting of Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) oil ministers who would attempt to bring a price fall under control. Nonetheless, oil prices would end up substantially lower, he said.

The former Saudi minister, who left office in late 1986, said only be in coordination with other members of the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), said Cambridge Energy Research Associates' President Daniel Yergin.

The IEA's governing board of 21 oil importing nations met in Paris Friday to discuss whether members should tap their respective stockpiles to counter soaring world oil prices.

So far, officials from Britain, Germany and Japan have said they have no plans to sell oil from their government reserves

## West unlikely to tap strategic oil reserves

## Energy agency seeks emergency response to counter oil shortage

**PARIS (Agencies)** — The International Energy Agency (IEA) opened one of its most important meetings ever Friday, seeking to clear the way for a quick emergency response in the event of a serious oil shortage.

During a luncheon break, members of the British delegation said the governing board was not planning to call for the release of strategic petroleum stocks.

The agency represents 21 industrialized countries, including the United States, which this week decided to tap its strategic petroleum reserves for the first time by selling five million barrels of oil from its reserves.

Bush administration officials said the move was a test to see if the system could work in an emergency. But observers here considered it likely the Americans would press for similar action from other IEA members, particularly West Germany, with 97 million barrels of reserves, and Japan with 245 million barrels.

"We don't see the urgency of pressing them so hard right now," U.S. Energy Secretary James Watkins said Thursday. "Worldwide stocks right now are above the norm."

Most official Western oil stocks are held by the United States, Japan and West Germany.

One IEA official said Thursday that the agency, created in 1973, wanted to "clear the decks" of regulatory and logistical obstacles

out, would set up a U.S.-led donor group to provide emergency aid quickly and also create separate World Bank-led groups that would coordinate mid-term aid policy for individual countries, the sources said.

Washington, eager to retain as much control as possible over international efforts to help such countries as Egypt, Turkey and Jordan, wants to set up a pool of funds it would manage for that purpose.

Tokyo is resisting, worried about being left open to U.S. pressure to provide more and more funds, and wants the World Bank to play a leading role, the sources said, Thursday.

President George Bush announced Tuesday the formation of a task force to channel funds to the front-line states that encircle Iraq and to other countries suffering badly from the financial fallout of the Gulf crisis.

Washington and Tokyo were divided at the first meeting of the group Wednesday but agreed to try to thrash out their differences quickly.

The compromise, if worked

drawdown of the estimated 1.7 billion barrels of oil that governments and companies hold.

At its last meeting Aug. 28, the IEA said the supply situation remained manageable, and the agency official said it hasn't changed considerably since August.

Spot benchmark Brent blend oil was quoted near 10-year highs at \$41.25 a barrel at midday in Europe Friday as traders scrambled to lock in supplies now in case war breaks out in the Gulf. They fear war could damage installations there.

Prices have more than doubled since Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2, despite the fact that output from the two countries, banned from world markets by a United Nations trade embargo, has been largely offset by extra oil from other major producers.

President Bush, worried that dearer oil could push the teetering American economy into a recession, expressed anger this week over the jump in prices, saying there was no justification for the intensive speculation in oil.

However, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said governments must urgently reduce oil price instability by using

strategic reserves and an agreement between producers and consumers to beat speculation.

"It is indispensable for governments to take an important role in shaping market psychology," Shahen Abramian, head of international monetary issues at UNCTAD told Reuters in a telephone interview. "It would be unpardonable for governments to sit back and let speculation cause chaos."

In a paper to be presented to the UNCTAD Trade and Development Board next week, the agency said oil price volatility must be reduced in order to curb instability in the financial markets.

Sheikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the former Saudi Arabian oil minister, and one-time chief OPEC strategist, said high oil prices were due to the failure of leading oil companies and Western countries to use reserves.

"If oil companies were to de-stock and draw from their inventories, we could reduce the price of oil," the British newspaper Financial Times quoted him as saying.

He said the tapping of strategic reserves by governments would be ineffective unless oil companies cut stocks.

## Washington tries to control dispersal of funds

## U.S., Japan clash over channelling of funds for front-line countries

**WASHINGTON (R)** — The United States and Japan clashed over how to channel money to countries hardest hit by the Gulf crisis at the first meeting of a group of donor nations, international monetary sources said.

Washington, eager to retain as

much control as possible over international efforts to help such countries as Egypt, Turkey and Jordan, wants to set up a pool of funds it would manage for that purpose.

Tokyo is resisting, worried about

being left open to U.S. pressure to provide more and more funds, and wants the World Bank to play a leading role, the sources said.

A group of 16 donors, including major industrial nations and oil-rich Gulf states, discussed ways of channelling funds to nations hardest hit by the economic fallout of the Gulf crisis.

Tokyo pledged earlier this month that it will provide \$2 billion to the front-line states and other nations hit hardest by the crisis.

It said \$600 million of that will be made available immediately to Egypt, Jordan and Turkey on a bilateral basis, but it will decide when and how the remaining \$1.4

billion will be provided after consulting with the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

The United States disliked the

Japanese proposal because it hopes to maintain as much control as possible over any multilateral aid fund.

fishing, concentrating on recession-proof issues," said John Schraff of the equities trading department at Daiwa. "But there's really not much out there for people to buy."

The widely watched Dow index lost more than 40 points in the first 15 minutes of trading on fears of war in the Gulf, rising oil prices and a sharp fall in Tokyo.

Although the market steadied itself, analysts were sceptical that the rebound would last.

"This recovery doesn't mean the market's not going down," said George Pirrone, senior trader at Dreyfus.

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### FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

## Russian democratic group plots to seize power, Pravda says

MOSCOW (AP) — The Communist Party daily Pravda Friday condemned what it said to be a democratic group's plot to seize power, and radical politicians feared the article could foreshadow a government crackdown.

Pravda said a group called the "Russian Democratic Forum" drafted a "programme for action-90" that seeks "the elimination of the CPSU from the political arena, the breakup of its ranks and nationalisation of its property." CPSU is an abbreviation for the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

The report added to a series of rumours that began with talk that the Soviet military was plotting to seize power. The rumours then shifted to the theory — officially denied — that the military would move against democratic forces allegedly plotting to take over strategic points such as power stations, television offices and railway terminals.

The rumours have surfaced in an atmosphere of confusion in the Soviet political scene, frequent protests and increasingly hard economies.

President Mikhail Gorbachev referred to the troubled times Friday in a Kremlin meeting with

Jack Weits, president of General Electric.

"It really is an exciting time, so exciting that people are completely confused. We must be excited to galvanise the whole country or we will not get out of this vicious circle. ... The command system has almost completely fallen apart," Gorbachev said.

In the Pravda article — appearing on the front page and titled, "What 'Democrats' Are Preparing" — historian Y. Makhrin says the "programme for action-90" is "destructive, permeated by a spirit of intolerance and lack of acceptance of those unsuitable to its authors." He calls for a legal study of the document because of its calls a violent overthrow of the state.

Little is known about the "Russian Democratic Forum," which supposedly drafted the plan in July. The Moscow newspaper Leningradskaia Znamya said Friday it was formed by some members of the Russian People's Front, a grassroots political movement.

Other democratic leaders distanced themselves from the group at a news conference Friday.

The statement from the radical

groups said such actions would "play into the hand of those who would like to find some kind of plot, to have a pretext to introduce a state of emergency in the country and devastate democratic forces."

Pravda underscored its concern for the alleged threats with a second article about possible trouble in the Ukraine. It said "forces that call themselves 'democratic' are getting ready for a coup."

"They all have their own programme, their own aims but they are united by their anti-Communist direction, their desire to do away with the CPSU — the only obstacle on their way to their often adventurous goals," Pravda said in an article from Kiev, the Ukrainian capital.

Gorbachev is now armed with new powers he could use to snuff disruptive forces. On Monday, the Supreme Soviet legislature gave him the authority to issue decrees to rescue the collapsing Soviet economy and ensure law and order.

He issued his first directive Thursday, ordering businesses nationwide to fulfil supply contracts and the government to ensure distribution.



Millions of street children around the world struggle to earn a meager living.

## Meeting on children casts spotlight on bleak lives

MEXICO CITY (R) — World leaders at the United Nations this weekend discuss the plight of needy children like eight-year-old Miguel who ekes out an existence on a busy Mexico City street corner by washing cars and juggling.

Miguel epitomises the fate of millions of youngsters throughout the Third World, under focus at the U.N.'s first world summit for children in New York.

Seven days a week, homeless Miguel washes windscreens by day then dares himself in greasepaint to juggle at night before collapsing on a pavement to sleep.

Like Miguel, every day 150 million children under the age of five go to bed hungry with little hope of a better tomorrow.

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who will address the opening session Sunday, has referred repeatedly to his concern about Mexico's needy children and pledged to eradicate extreme poverty.

But critics say free-market policies favoured by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in Mexico and other Third World nations struggling to strengthen their economies have contributed to the plight of the poor and forced children like Miguel to live on the streets.

"It's a farce. We're either with the IMF or we're with the kids. We have to break the circle of poverty and the policies of the IMF," Barcena said, calling for an increase in spending on social programmes.

Leaders at the summit are expected to ratify an accord on children's rights, but social workers said there was little hope of a quick solution to the suffering of millions of children currently living homeless and in poverty.

## 16 jailed for life over Aquino murder

MANILA (R) — A Philippine court on Friday found an air force general and 15 other soldiers guilty of the 1983 murder of politician Benigno Aquino, husband of President Corazon Aquino, and sentenced them to life imprisonment.

The court said the 16 were guilty of conspiring to kill the former Philippine opposition leader when he flew home from exile in the United States to challenge the late president Ferdinand Marcos.

But in a 177-page verdict the court failed to settle the question of who ordered the killing of Aquino, shot dead as he stepped off a China Airlines jet at Manila Airport.

President Aquino avoided

direct comment on the outcome of the drawn-out case, in which 20 other people were acquitted including former Tourism Minister Jose Aspiras who is now a member of congress. But she criticised the slow pace of justice in the Philippines.

"As the widow of Ninoy (Benigno Aquino), I do have very strong feelings about the verdict. However, my position as president prevents me from expressing my true feelings," she declared in a statement.

But Benigno Aquino's brother, Senator Agapito Aquino, said he was "contented with the decision, even if they got the triggerman but not the mastermind."

"But the mastermind is now resting in peace," he added, re-

ferring to Marcos, who died exactly a year ago in exile in Hawaii.

The court identified constable Rogelio Moreno as the gunman who pulled the trigger behind Aquino's head while he was coming down the steps from the plane under military escort. He was among the 16 given life sentences.

Vice-President Salvador Laurel said the court had failed to pin-point the mastermind. "The case therefore remains unsolved," he said.

Among those who were indicted, but are yet to be tried is Marcos' former chief-of-staff, General Fabian Ver, who fled with Marcos into exile in 1986 and cannot be found.

President Aquino avoided

AIDS — the worst is yet to come

ATLANTA (AP) — The AIDS crisis is getting worse and not better, with an estimated 8 million people worldwide now infected, international AIDS experts and American's top health official have said.

"This is still a very new pandemic," said Dr. Jonathan Mann, director of the International AIDS Centre at Harvard University, speaking to a worldwide AIDS symposium in Atlanta, Georgia. "The worst is yet to come."

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan again defended the government's AIDS programme. "We are doing a lot more than most realise, and much more than any other nation," he said.

The conference, which continues through Saturday, is sponsored by the Morehouse School of Medicine, where Sullivan

served as president, and the government's research centres in minority institutions.

Mann cited projections saying at least 8 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. That includes an estimated 5 million infected people in Africa and 2 million in the Americas. U.S. health officials estimate that 1 million people are infected in the United States.

A comparatively low 600,000 people worldwide actually developed AIDS in the 1980s, Mann said.

"We are just beginning to experience what this pandemic will bring," Mann said. "A pandemic is an epidemic over a large region."

"There is clearly going to be a wave that makes the experience of the '80s look relatively small — at least a 10-fold increase."

## Burmese troops raid foreign embassies

BANGKOK (AP) — Burmese military government sent troops into the compounds of the U.S., West German and British embassies and detained Burmese employees for interrogation, a diplomat said.

Troops entered the West German embassy compound 10 days ago and have taken similar action against the U.S. and British embassies a number of times previously.

The diplomat, who spoke at a news conference in Bangkok on condition he not be identified further, did not say why the troops had entered the embassies or where most of the employees were arrested.

He also reported that arrests and intimidation of dissidents was widespread and worsened significantly over the past month.

"The situation on the human rights front is abysmal," the diplomat said.

He added that an oral protest over the embassy raids and human rights abuses was jointly presented to the government last Friday by the 12 members of the European Community, plus Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States.

The protest, delivered by Italian Ambassador Giorgio Bosco, was to make clear that the countries did not accept the military junta "as the legitimate government ... (and) that we are not simply going to look at the Middle East crisis and forget about Burma," the diplomat said.

They said Burmese employees of the U.S., British and Australian embassies had been detained for questioning, some for several days.

One employee was taken from home by military intelligence officers, held in jail for four days and questioned about the embassy's view of Burmese politics, he said.

The employee reported being held in the cell next door to Kyi Maung, the 72-year-old acting leader of the National League for Democracy. Kyi Maung was arrested this month for allegedly breaking the official secrets act.

Arrested with Kyi Maung were his deputy Chit Khain and four senior party members in the central city of Mandalay. Aung San Suu Kyi and Tin Oo, the party's two main leaders, have been detained since July 1989.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the United States strongly protested the detentions to Burmese officials in Washington and Rangoon.

"We regard such harassment as a serious contravention of accepted international behaviour and as totally inconsistent with international law," he said.

Boucher said Burmese officials detained and interrogated four Burmese employees of the U.S. embassy about embassy operations and personnel. He gave no further details.

## COLUMN

### Onassis Awards

Carter, Genscher to receive Onassis Awards

ATHENS (AP) — Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher were named as recipients of the 1990 Onassis Foundation Awards for their contributions to man and society. Two other awards go to Greenpeace International and prominent Cypriot archaeologist Professor Vassos Karagiorgis.

The awards were announced by Ioannis Georgakis, president of the Lichtenstein-based Onassis Foundation set up under the will of the late Greek shipping magnate Aristotle Onassis. The foundation honours the memory of Onassis, 23 years old son Alexander killed in an airplane crash at Athens airport in 1973. Georgakis said Carter was chosen to receive the Aristoteles Prize because of his "personal involvement and valuable contribution in bringing international disputes into the realm of international peacekeeping efforts and for establishing the 'Carter centre' to support education, human rights and humanitarian activities that seek to ameliorate the effects of hunger and disease mainly in the developing world."

He said Genscher would receive the Athina Prize for being a "decisive factor in the shaping of today's East-West relations, part of which is the unification of Germany."

### 2 10-year-olds set record in Alcatraz swim

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two strong 10-year-olds have become the youngest to make the 1.5-mile (2.4-kilometre) swim from Alcatraz Island to the city. They said some estimates show 500 children under the age of five die in Mexico every 24 hours.

The international spotlight is expected to fall on the bleak lives of such children around the world when more than 75 heads of state meet at the U.N. Sunday and Monday to discuss an urgent need for long-term solutions to a problem experts say threatens the future of Third World nations.

According to statistics from the United Nations Emergency Children's Fund (UNICEF) at least 40,000 children around the world die for lack of medicines that cost only a few pennies per child.

Like Miguel, every day 150 million children under the age of five go to bed hungry with little hope of a better tomorrow.

Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who will address the opening session Sunday, has referred repeatedly to his concern about Mexico's needy children and pledged to eradicate extreme poverty.

Boys and girls like Miguel appear everywhere in Mexico City's smog-choked streets, cleaning windshields, juggling, hawking newspapers, or working as "tragafuegos," the human flamethrowers who spit gasoline onto a burning torch in return for tips.

Thousands of other children from Mexico City's feid open-air garbage dumps alongside rats in search of recyclable goods.

Social workers estimate Mexico has up to 15 million homeless children.

Malnutrition or a lack of medicines killed 1.1 million children under five years of age between 1982 and 1988, according to Andre Barcena, the director of the independent Mexican Centre for Infant Rights.

Serbia, which is controlled by Communists, was expected later to set a date for the first free elections in the republic since World War II.

The northwestern republics of Croatia and Slovenia dumped Communist rule in free elections last spring and Macedonia and Bosnia-Herzegovina are scheduled to hold elections in November.

Texts of the constitution were not immediately available but it was expected to lay the ground for multi-party elections in Serbia, where opposition parties have staged several big anti-Communist demonstrations this year.

Yugoslavia's Tanjug news agency said the constitution defined Serbia as a democratic republic, pledging the equality of all people's rights. It dropped the word Socialist and other ideological attributes.

It strengthened the powers of the republic's president, placing the leadership with one person rather than the current collective presidency.

The constitution pledges loyalty to the federal Yugoslav state but contains a provision that Serbia can "turn its back" on the federation if the republic was threatened.

Kendall made his remarks at Thursday's opening of the 59th General Assembly of Interpol, with the Soviet delegation attending.

"By the end of the year, all these countries (in Eastern Europe) will be in," Kendall added.

Czechoslovakia and Poland, which have emerged in the past year from Communist rule as new democracies, are joining this year.

On Wednesday, ambassadors of the 16 NATO nations discussed the possibility that Iraq would launch attacks against the allies.

The Douglass break-in was not mentioned at the meeting, one official said Thursday.

According to the U.S. embassy statement, a man in what looked like a police uniform forced his way into Douglass' home Tuesday evening.

U.S. officials refused to speculate on the motive for the attack, but one NATO official demanding anonymity, said, "it's cer-

## Home of U.S. general broken into in Brussels

BRUSSELS (AP) — Two assailants broke into the home of a U.S. Air Force general assigned to NATO and overpowered his guard, but the general was outside the country at the time, the U.S. embassy said.

Belgian television station VTM, quoting an unidentified source, described Tuesday night's incident as an attempted kidnapping or murder.

The break-in occurred at the suburban home of Gen. John W. Douglass, deputy U.S. representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's (NATO) Military Committee, an embassy staff member.

The new members were sworn into office by the Senate clerk, late Thursday, but will not take their seats until the chamber resumes work next week.

An opposition leader called Mulroney's move "an abuse of power" and legal challenges loom. The only other similar request was in 1873, but the appeal was not granted.

The nation's 1867 constitution

allows the British monarch to add four or eight members to the Senate on a request by the governor-general, the Canadian representative to the Commonwealth.

Mulroney used the measure as a last resort to save the 7 per cent goods and services tax, stalled in the Liberal-dominated Senate. The Commons, dominated by Conservatives, supported the tax.

The proposed consumption tax would replace a 13 per cent tax paid by manufacturers. Some basics, such as groceries, would be exempt from the tax, but it would affect even such services as a haircut.

Mulroney said the debate goes beyond the tax proposal to the principle of whether the elected Commons should prevail over the appointed Senate.

In recent months, there have

## Canada wins approval to expand Senate

OTTAWA (AP) — Using an obscure constitutional provision, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney received permission from Queen Elizabeth II to appoint eight partisan senators to help push through a controversial tax.

The new lawmakers, who serve until age 75, bring the Senate to 112 seats and give Mulroney's Conservative Party a majority in both the Senate and House of Commons.

The new members were sworn into office by the Senate clerk, late Thursday, but will not take their seats until the chamber resumes work next week.

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